

CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

- 1           1.       (Previously Presented) A system comprising:  
2                   a memory bus; and  
3                   a plurality of memory controllers, each memory controller to generate  
4 memory requests on the memory bus according to a predetermined priority scheme, the  
5 predetermined priority scheme defining time slots, wherein the memory controllers are  
6 allocated to respective time slots according to the predetermined priority scheme,  
7                   at least two of the plurality of memory controllers adapted to generate  
8 concurrently pending memory requests on the memory bus in plural respective time slots.
- 1           2.       (Cancelled)
- 1           3.       (Cancelled)
- 1           4.       (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the memory bus comprises a  
2 Rambus channel.
- 1           5.       (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein each memory controller  
2 generates a memory request during a different predetermined time slot.
- 1           6.       (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the memory bus comprises  
2 plural control portions, each of the control portions associated with corresponding time  
3 slot priority schemes.
- 1           7.       (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the time slot priority schemes  
2 are staggered.

1           8.       (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the control portion comprise a  
2 row portion and a column portion.

1           9.       (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the memory bus comprises  
2 plural portions, each portion associated with a set of memory devices.

1           10.      (Previously Presented) A system comprising:  
2                   a plurality of memory buses;  
3                   a hub connected to the plurality of memory buses; and  
4                   a plurality of memory controllers connected to a first one of the memory  
5 buses, each memory controller to monitor memory requests generated by another  
6 memory controller in performing memory-related actions,  
7                   the memory controllers to access a second one of the memory buses  
8 through the hub.

1           11.      (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the memory-related actions  
2 comprise a read-modify-write transaction.

1           12.      (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the memory-related actions  
2 comprise a cache coherency action.

1           13.      (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the memory-related actions  
2 comprise a memory request.

1           14.      (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, each memory controller to  
2 determine if the memory buses are available based on outstanding requests from other  
3 memory controllers.

1           15.     (Previously Presented) A method for use in a system having plural  
2     memory buses, a hub connected to the memory buses, and a plurality of memory  
3     controllers, the method comprising:  
4                 generating requests, by the memory controllers, on the memory buses; and  
5                 each memory controller monitoring memory-related actions on the  
6     memory buses connected by the hub by at least another memory controller.

1           16.     (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein generating the requests  
2     comprises generating Rambus command packets.

1           17.     (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein generating the requests  
2     comprises the memory controllers generating the requests one at a time according to a  
3     predetermined priority scheme.

1           18.     (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein generating the requests  
2     comprises generating the requests according to a time slot priority scheme.

1           19.     (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein generating the requests  
2     comprises generating the requests according to a request-select priority scheme.

1           20.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising each  
2     memory controller determining when to generate a memory request based on the  
3     monitoring.

1           21.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising each  
2     memory controller determining if a lock has been asserted due to presence of a read-  
3     modify-write transaction.

1           22.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising each  
2     memory controller performing a cache coherency action based on the monitoring.

1           23.   (Previously Presented) An article comprising one or more storage media  
2   containing instructions that when executed cause a memory controller to:  
3               monitor memory requests from another memory controller on a memory  
4   bus;  
5               determine if a memory request can be generated on the memory bus based  
6   on the monitoring; and  
7               generate memory requests on the memory bus according to a time slot  
8   priority scheme that defines time slots allocated to respective memory controllers.

1           24.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of  
2   memory controllers are connected to the memory bus.

1           25.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein one of the at least  
2   two memory controllers is adapted to generate its memory request on the memory bus  
3   before data is returned for the memory request of the other one of the at least two  
4   memory controllers.

1           26.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein at least two of the  
2   memory controllers are adapted to generate concurrently pending memory requests on the  
3   first memory bus, each of the concurrently pending memory requests comprising control  
4   information and memory address information.

1           27.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein one of the at least  
2   two memory controllers is adapted to generate its memory request including control  
3   information and memory address information on the memory bus before data is returned  
4   for the memory request of the other one of the at least two memory controllers.

1           28.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein generating the  
2   requests on the memory bus comprises at least two of the memory controllers generating  
3   concurrently pending requests on the memory bus, each of the concurrently pending  
4   requests comprising control information and memory address information.

1           29.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein generating  
2 concurrently pending requests comprises one of the at least two memory controllers  
3 generating its request including control information and memory address information on  
4 the memory bus before data is returned for the request of the other of the at least two  
5 memory controllers.

1           30.     (Previously Presented) The article of claim 23, wherein the memory  
2 controllers are connected to the memory bus.

1           31.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the predetermined  
2 priority scheme enables the memory controllers to gain access to the memory bus without  
3 having to assert arbitration requests.

1           32.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the memory  
2 controllers are adapted to access the memory bus according to a round-robin priority  
3 scheme.

1           33.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the memory bus  
2 comprises a first memory bus, the system further comprising:  
3                   a hub connected to the first memory bus; and  
4                   a second memory bus connected to the hub, at least two of the memory  
5 controllers adapted to generate concurrently pending memory requests on the second  
6 memory bus through the hub.

1           34.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein each of the  
2 memory requests comprises control information and memory address information, the at  
3 least two memory controllers adapted to generate concurrently pending memory requests  
4 on the second memory bus by providing control information and memory address  
5 information of the concurrently pending memory requests on the second memory bus.

1           35.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein each of the  
2     memory requests comprises control information and memory address information, the at  
3     least two memory controllers adapted to generate concurrently pending memory requests  
4     on the first memory bus by providing control information and memory address  
5     information of the concurrently pending memory requests on the first memory bus.

1           36.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the plurality of  
2     memory controllers are each adapted to generate memory requests on the first one of the  
3     memory buses, each memory controller to monitor memory requests on the first one of  
4     the memory buses generated by another memory controller on the first one of the  
5     memory buses.

1           37.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the plurality of  
2     memory controllers are each adapted to generate memory requests on the second one of  
3     the memory buses, each memory controller to monitor memory requests on the second  
4     one of the memory buses generated by another memory controller on the second one of  
5     the memory buses.

1           38.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the memory  
2     controllers are adapted to access any of the memory buses according to a time slot  
3     priority scheme that defines a plurality of time slots allocated to respective memory  
4     controllers.

1           39.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the memory  
2     controllers are adapted to access any of the memory buses according to the time slot  
3     priority scheme without asserting arbitration requests.

1           40.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, further comprising  
2     memory devices connected to respective memory buses, the memory devices accessible  
3     by the memory controllers.

1           41.     (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein a first one of the  
2     memory controllers is adapted to generate the read-modify-write transaction, the first one  
3     of the memory controllers to assert a lock indication for a memory location accessed by  
4     the read-modify-write transaction to prevent another one of the memory controllers from  
5     accessing the memory location.

1           42.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising:  
2                   the plurality of memory controllers generating memory requests on a first  
3     one of the memory buses; and  
4                   each memory controller monitoring memory requests on the first one of  
5     the memory buses generated by another memory controller on the first one of the  
6     memory buses.

1           43.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising:  
2                   the plurality of memory controllers generating memory requests on a  
3     second one of the memory buses through the hub; and  
4                   each memory controller monitoring memory requests on the second one of  
5     the memory buses generated by another memory controller on the second one of the  
6     memory buses.

1           44.     (Previously Presented) The article of claim 23, wherein generating  
2     memory requests on the memory bus according to the time slot priority scheme is  
3     performed without generating arbitration requests.